FORM APPROVED
OMB NO.0920-0004

INVESTIGATION OF A FOODBORNE OUTBREAK

This form is used to report foodborne disease outbreak investigations to CDC. A foodborne outbreak is defined as the occurrence of **two or more cases** of a similar illness resulting from the ingestion of a common food in the United States. This form has **two** parts: Part 1 asks for the minimum data needed and Part 2 asks for additional information. For this investigation to be counted in the CDC annual summary, Part 1 must be completed. **We encourage you to complete as much of Part 1 and Part 2 as you can.**

CDC USE ONLY
__ __-__ __ __ __ __ __

STATE USE ONLY
_____

Part 1: Required Information

1. Location of Exposure:

State: ___ ___
☐ Multi-state exposure

County: _____
☐ Multi-county exposure

List other states/counties in Comments, bottom of this page

2. Dates:

Date first case became ill: ___ ___ / ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ ___
Month Day Year

Date of first known exposure: ___ ___ / ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ ___
Month Day Year

Date of last known exposure: ___ ___ / ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ ___
Month Day Year

Please send epidemic curve, if available.

3. Numbers of Cases Exposed:

Lab-confirmed cases: _____ *(A)*

Probable cases: _____ *(B)*

Estimated total ill: _____
(If greater than sum of A+B)

4. Approximate Percentage of Total Cases in Each Age Group:

<1 year: _____% 20-49 yrs: _____%

1-4 yrs: _____% ≥ 50 yrs: _____%

5-19 yrs: _____%

5. Sex: (Estimated percent of total cases)

Male: _____ %

Female: _____ %

6. Investigation Methods: (Check all that apply)

☐ Interviews of cases only investigation
☐ Case-control study
☐ Cohort study
☐ Food preparation review
☐ Food product traceback
☐ Factory or production plant
☐ Source investigation (farm, marine estuary, etc.)
☐ Environment / food sample cultures

7. Implicated Food(s): (based on Reasons listed in Item 15 on page 3)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

☐ Could not be determined

8. Etiology: (Name the bacteria, virus, parasite, or toxin. Include specific details on toxin or organism, such as phage type, virulence factors, molecular fingerprinting, antibiogram, metabolic profile. Criteria for confirmed etiologies are defined in MMWR 1996 / Vol. 45 / ss-5 / Appendix B.)

Etiology	**Serotype** (if avail.)	**Other Characteristics**

☐ Etiology undetermined
☐ More than one etiology (Please list in Comments)

Isolated/identified from (check all that apply):
☐ Patient specimen(s)
☐ Food specimen(s)
☐ Environment specimen(s)
☐ Food worker specimen(s)

9. Contributing Factors: (See list on page 2, check all that apply)

☐ Contributing factors unknown

Contamination Factor:
☐ C1 ☐ C2 ☐ C3 ☐ C4 ☐ C5 ☐ C6 ☐ C7 ☐ C8 ☐ C9
☐ C10 ☐ C11 ☐ C12 ☐ C13 ☐ C14 ☐ C15 *(describe in Comments)* ☐ N/A

Proliferation/Amplification Factor (bacterial outbreaks only):
☐ P1 ☐ P2 ☐ P3 ☐ P4 ☐ P5 ☐ P6 ☐ P7 ☐ P8 ☐ P9
☐ P10 ☐ P11 ☐ P12 *(describe in Comments)* ☐ N/A

Survival Factor (microbial outbreaks only):
☐ S1 ☐ S2 ☐ S3 ☐ S4 ☐ S5 *(describe in Comments)* ☐ N/A

Was food-worker implicated as the source of contamination? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please check ***only one*** of following:
☐ laboratory *and* epidemiologic evidence
☐ epidemiologic evidence (w/o lab confirmation)
☐ lab evidence (w/o epidemiologic confirmation)
☐ prior experience makes this the likely source *(please explain in Comments)*

10. Agency reporting this outbreak:

_____

Contact Person:

NAME: _____
TITLE: _____
PHONE NO: _____
FAX NO: _____
E-MAIL: _____

Date of completion of this form:

___ ___ / ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ ___
Month Day Year

☐ **Initial Report**
☐ **Updated Report**
☐ **Final Report**
☐ **Additional data suggests this is not a foodborne outbreak**

Comments: _____

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The following codes are to be used to fill out Part 1 (question 9) and Part 2 (question 15).

Contamination Factors:[1]

C1 - Toxic substance part of tissue (e.g., ciguatera)
C2 - Poisonous substance intentionally added (e.g., cyanide or phenolphthalein added to cause illness)
C3 - Poisonous or physical substance accidentally/incidentally added (e.g., sanitizer or cleaning compound)
C4 - Addition of excessive quantities of ingredients that are toxic under these situations (e.g., niacin poisoning in bread)
C5 - Toxic container or pipelines (e.g., galvanized containers with acid food, copper pipe with carbonated beverages)
C6 - Raw product/ingredient contaminated by pathogens from animal or environment (e.g., *Salmonella enteriditis* in egg, Norwalk in shellfish, *E. coli* in sprouts)
C7 - Ingestion of contaminated raw products (e.g., raw shellfish, produce, eggs)
C8 - Obtaining foods from polluted sources (e.g., shellfish)
C9 - Cross-contamination from raw ingredient of animal origin (e.g., raw poultry on the cutting board)
C10 - Bare-handed contact by handler/worker/preparer (e.g., with ready-to-eat food)
C11 - Glove-handed contact by handler/worker/preparer (e.g., with ready-to-eat food)
C12 - Handling by an infected person or carrier of pathogen (e.g., *Staphylococcus*, *Salmonella*, Norwalk agent)
C13 - Inadequate cleaning of processing/preparation equipment/utensils – leads to contamination of vehicle (e.g., cutting boards)
C14 - Storage in contaminated environment – leads to contamination of vehicle (e.g., store room, refrigerator)
C15 - Other source of contamination (*please describe in Comments*)

Proliferation/Amplification Factors:[1]

P1 - Allowing foods to remain at room or warm outdoor temperature for several hours (e.g., during preparation or holding for service)
P2 - Slow cooling (e.g., deep containers or large roasts)
P3 - Inadequate cold-holding temperatures (e.g., refrigerator inadequate/not working, iced holding inadequate)
P4 - Preparing foods a half day or more before serving (e.g., banquet preparation a day in advance)
P5 - Prolonged cold storage for several weeks (e.g., permits slow growth of psychrophilic pathogens)
P6 - Insufficient time and/or temperature during hot holding (e.g., malfunctioning equipment, too large a mass of food)
P7 - Insufficient acidification (e.g., home canned foods)
P8 - Insufficiently low water activity (e.g., smoked/salted fish)
P9 - Inadequate thawing of frozen products (e.g., room thawing)
P10 - Anaerobic packaging/Modified atmosphere (e.g., vacuum packed fish, salad in gas flushed bag)
P11 - Inadequate fermentation (e.g., processed meat, cheese)
P12 - Other situations that promote or allow microbial growth or toxic production (*please describe in Comments*)

Survival Factors:[1]

S1 - Insufficient time and/or temperature during cooking/heat processing (e.g., roasted meats/poultry, canned foods, pasteurization)
S2 - Insufficient time and/or temperature during reheating (e.g., sauces, roasts)
S3 - Inadequate acidification (e.g., mayonnaise, tomatoes canned)
S4 - Insufficient thawing, followed by insufficient cooking (e.g., frozen turkey)
S5 - Other process failures that permit the agent to survive (*please describe in Comments*)

Method of Preparation:[2]

M1 - Foods eaten raw or lightly cooked (e.g., hard shell clams, sunny side up eggs)
M2 - Solid masses of potentially hazardous foods (e.g., casseroles, lasagna, stuffing)
M3 - Multiple foods (e.g., smorgasbord, buffet)
M4 - Cook/serve foods (e.g., steak, fish fillet)
M5 - Natural toxicant (e.g., poisonous mushrooms, paralytic shellfish poisoning)
M6 - Roasted meat/poultry (e.g., roast beef, roast turkey)
M7 - Salads prepared with one or more cooked ingredients (e.g., macaroni, potato, tuna)
M8 - Liquid or semi-solid mixtures of potentially hazardous foods (e.g., gravy, chili, sauce)
M9 - Chemical contamination (e.g., heavy metal, pesticide)
M10 - Baked goods (e.g., pies, eclairs)
M11 - Commercially processed foods (e.g., canned fruits and vegetables, ice cream)
M12 - Sandwiches (e.g., hot dog, hamburger, Monte Cristo)
M13 - Beverages (e.g., carbonated and non-carbonated, milk)
M14 - Salads with raw ingredients (e.g., green salad, fruit salad)
M15 - Other, does not fit into above categories *(please describe in Comments)*
M16 - Unknown, vehicle was not identified

[1] Frank L. Bryan, John J. Guzewich, and Ewen C. D. Todd. Surveillance of Foodborne Disease III. Summary and Presentation of Data on Vehicles and Contributory Factors; Their Value and Limitations. Journal of Food Protection, 60; 6:701-714, 1997.
[2] Weingold, S. E., Guzewich JJ, and Fudala JK. Use of foodborne disease data for HACCP risk assessment. Journal of Food Protection, 57; 9:820-830, 1994.

Part 2: Additional Information (Please complete as much as possible)

11. Numbers of:

OUTCOME / SYMPTOM	**Cases** with **Outcome / Symptom**	**Total** cases for whom you have information available
Healthcare Provider Visit		
Hospitalization		
Death		
Vomiting		
Diarrhea		
Bloody stools		
Feverish		
Abdominal cramps		
*		
*		
*		
*		

12. Incubation Period:

(circle appropriate units)

Shortest: _____ (Hours, days)

Longest: _____ (Hours, days)

Median: _____ (Hours, days)

☐ Unknown

13. Duration of Acute Illness Among Those Who Recovered:

(circle appropriate units)

Shortest: _____ (Hours, days)

Longest: _____ (Hours, days)

Median: _____ (Hours, days)

☐ Unknown

* Use the following terms, if appropriate, to describe other common characteristics of cases:

anaphylaxis
arthralgia
bradycardia
bullous skin lesions
bradycardia
cough
coma
diplopia
descending paralysis
flushing
headache
hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS)
hypotension
itching
jaundice
lethargy
myalgia
paresthesia
septicemia
sore throat
tachycardia
thromobocytopenia
temperature reversal
urticaria
wheezing

14. If Cohort Investigation Conducted:

Event-specific Attack Rate = _____ **/** _____ **x 100 =** _____ **%**

# of exposed cases **# of exposed individ. for whom you have illness info.**

15. Implicated Food(s): (Please provide known information.)

Name of Food	**Main Ingredients**	**Contaminated Ingredient**	**Reason(s) Suspected** (see below)	**Method of Preparation** (see list on page 2)
e.g., lasagna	*pasta, sauce, eggs, beef*	*eggs*	*4*	*M1*

☐ Food vehicle could not be determined

Reason Suspected (choose all that apply):

1 - Statistical evidence from epidemiological investigation
2 - Laboratory evidence (e.g., identification of agent in food)
3 - Compelling supportive information
4 - Other data (e.g., same phage type found on farm that supplied eggs)
5 - Specific evidence lacking but prior experience makes this likely source

16. Where was Food Prepared? (Check all that apply)

☐ Restaurant or deli
☐ Day care center
☐ School
☐ Church, temple, etc.
☐ Camp
☐ Caterer
☐ Grocery store
☐ Hospital
☐ Workplace cafeteria
☐ Nursing home
☐ Prison, jail
☐ Private home
☐ Picnic
☐ Fair, festival, other temporary/mobile service
☐ Contaminated food imported into U.S.
☐ Commercial product, served without further preparation
☐ Other (please describe)

_____

17. Where was Food Eaten? (Check all that apply)

☐ Restaurant or deli
☐ Day care center
☐ School
☐ Church, temple, etc.
☐ Camp
☐ Grocery Store
☐ Hospital
☐ Workplace cafeteria
☐ Nursing home
☐ Prison, jail
☐ Private home
☐ Picnic
☐ Fair, festival, or mobile location
☐ Other (please describe)

_____

18. Other Available Info:

☐ Unpublished agency report (please attach)
☐ Epi-Aid
☐ Publication (please reference)

_____

☐ Not available

19. Remarks: Briefly describe important aspects of the outbreak not covered above

(e.g., restaurant closure, product recall, immunoglobulin administration, economic impact, etc.)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

State Health Departments: Please FAX this document to Biostatistics and Information Branch, DBMD, CDC, at (404) 639-2780.

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